GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:110
ANSWERED ON:26.11.2002
CLOSURE OF FERTILIZER UNITS
BHUPENDRASINH PRABHATSINH SOLANKI;YOGI ADITYANATH

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided to close down some of the fertiliser plants including the units being run by FCI limited functioning in different States all over the country;

(b) if so, the fertiliser plants proposed to be closed down, State-wise;

(c) the reasons therefore;

(d) the number of employees to be rendered jobless as a result thereof;

(e) the likely effect of closure on the production of fertilizers in the country;

(f) the alternate arrangements made to meet the demand of fertilizers, hitherto being met through these plants;

(g) whether the Government plan to exempt those units from closure which propose to convert to gas based plant using coal bed methane; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS (SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA)

(a) to (h) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (h) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question No.110 to be answered on 26.11.2002

(a) to (d) The Government have decided to close down the following units of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Ltd. (HFC), Fertilizer Corporation of India Ltd. (FCI) andPyrites, Phosphates & Chemicals Ltd.(PPCL), having a total manpower of 11073,as they have not been found techno-economically viable:

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Andhra Pradesh : Ramagundam (FCI)
Bihar  : Barauni (HFC)
Jharkhand : Sindri (FCI)
Chhattisgarh : Korba Project (FCI)
Orissa  : Talcher (FCI)
Rajasthan : Saladipura (PPCL)
Uttaranchal : Dehradun (PPCL)
Uttar Pradesh : Gorakhpur (FCI)
West Bengal : Durgapur;  Haldia; and Fertilizer Promotion &
   Agriculture Research Division  (HFC)
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The employees have been offered a package of Voluntary Separation Scheme.

(e) and (f): At the time of closure, none of the above units was in operation and the closure will have no effect on the availability of urea fertilizers in the country. Adequate supply of urea is ensured to all the States at a uniform Statutory Sale Price and no State is allowed to suffer from shortage of fertilizers.

(g) and (h): The availability and use of Coal Bed Methane for production of fertilizers is not feasible in the near future.